



HIV AND PERSONS WHO INJECT DRUGS

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NORTH
Dakota
Be Legendary.™

OBJECTIVES

- Describe the four components of the *Ending the HIV Epidemic* initiative.
- Detail the recent CDC Health Alert: *Recent HIV Clusters and Outbreaks Across the United States Among People Who Inject Drugs and Considerations During the COVID-19 Pandemic*.
- Identify data trends seen among ND SSPs during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Ending the HIV Epidemic



Diagnose



Treat

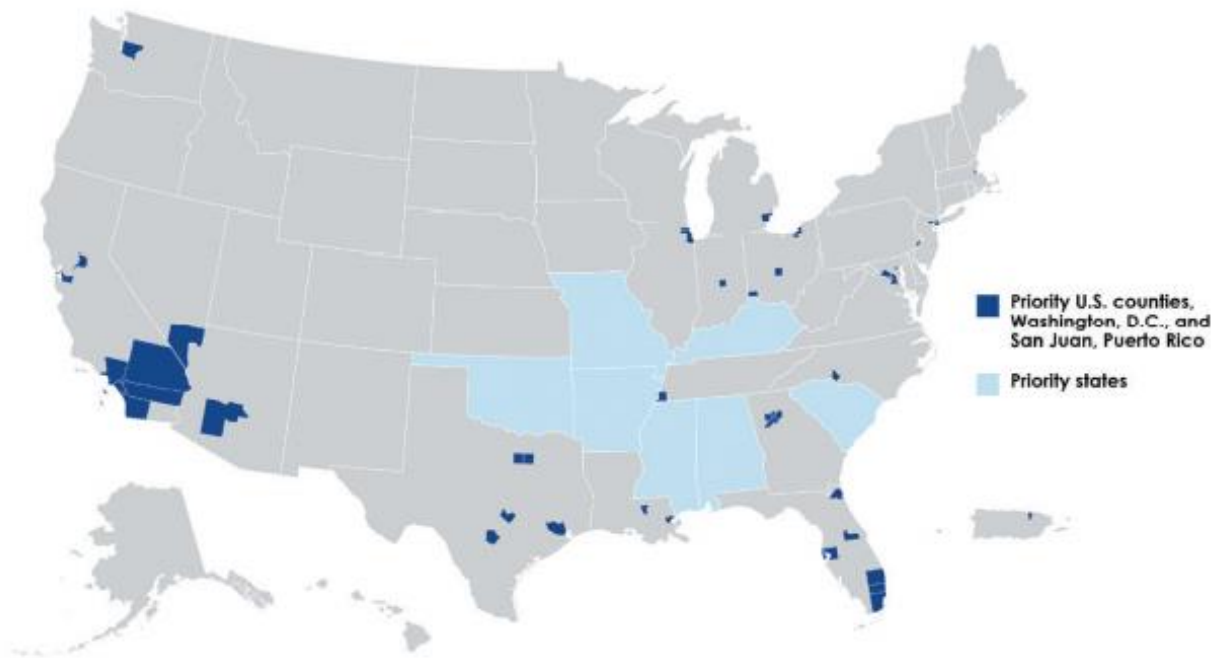


Prevent



Respond

The Initiative is focusing resources on areas where HIV transmission occurs most frequently.



Geographical Selection:

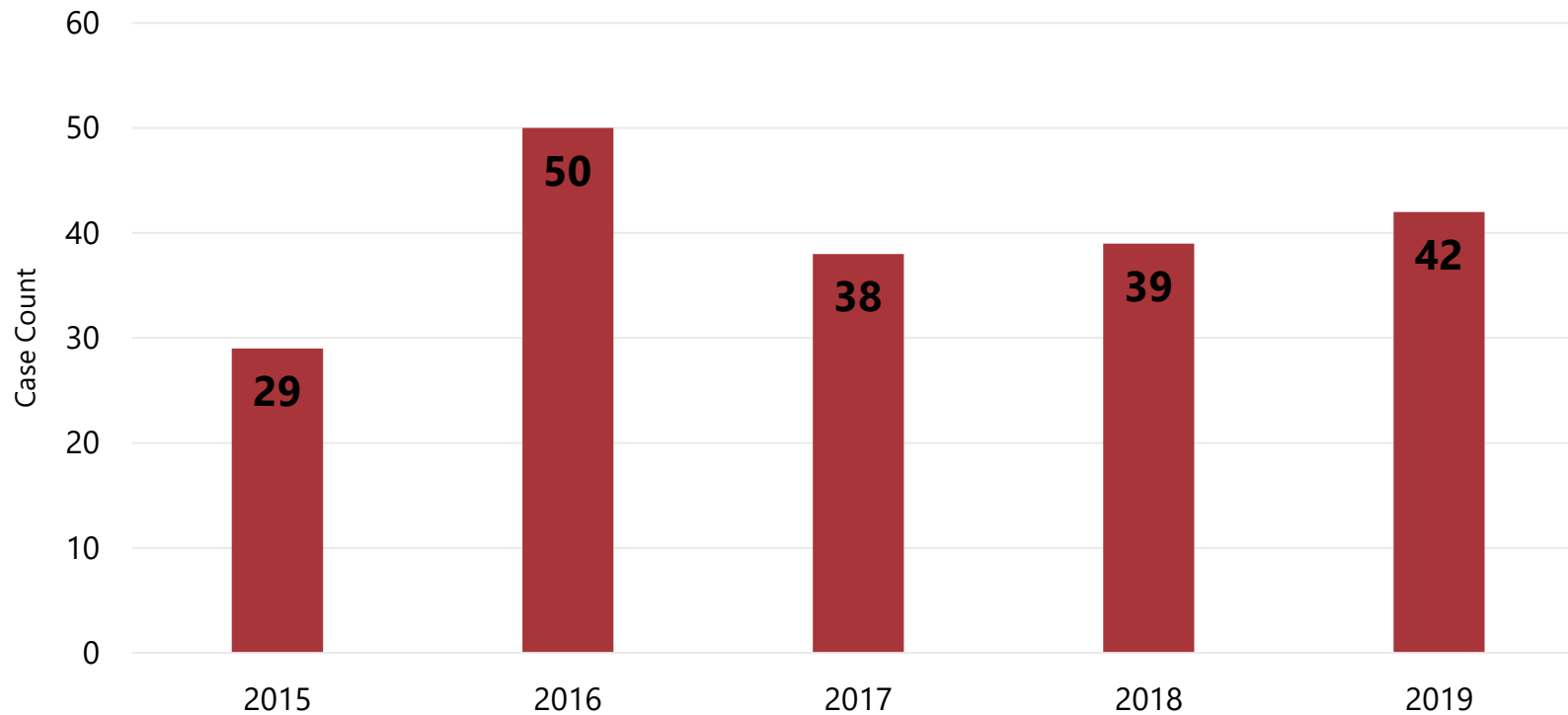
Data on burden of HIV in the US shows areas where HIV transmission occurs more frequently. More than 50% of new HIV diagnoses* occurred in only 48 counties, Washington, D.C., and San Juan, Puerto Rico. In addition, 7 states have a substantial rural burden – with over 75 cases and 10% or more of their diagnoses in rural areas.

*2016-2017 data

Ending
the
HIV
Epidemic

www.HIV.gov

HIV Incidence, North Dakota 2015-2019



Source: NDDoH Division of Disease Control

reaching
75%
reduction
in new HIV
infections
by 2025
and at least
90%
reduction
by 2030.



***Diagnose all
people with HIV
as early as
possible after
infection.***



DIAGNOSE



KEY APPROACHES TO DIAGNOSIS

- Latest systems and technology to make HIV testing simple, accessible and truly routine in healthcare and non-healthcare settings
- Testing those at substantial risk for HIV at least annually
- Innovative technologies, ex. Self-testing programs
- NEW: Address current service challenges and disruptions due to COVID-19



CDC TESTING RECOMMENDATIONS

Everyone 13-64 should be tested at least once

In addition, people should be tested if they:

- Have had sex with someone who is HIV-positive or whose HIV status they don't know
- Have ever injected drugs and shared needles or other equipment to do so
- Have exchanged sex for drugs or money
- Have been diagnosed or sought treatment for another sexually transmitted disease
- Have been diagnosed or sought treatment for TB or hepatitis
- Have had sex with someone who has done any of the above
- If someone continues to have unsafe sex or shares drug injection equipment, they should be tested once a year
- Sexually active gay and bisexual men should be tested more frequently (once every 3 to 6 months)
- Someone who has been sexually assaulted should be tested
- Women who are pregnant or planning to become pregnant should be tested





ND ACTIVITIES AND PRIORITIES

- HIV testing among those diagnosed with STIs
 - 2019: GC – 395 of 1,061 Tested
- CTR Program HIV Testing:
 - 2019: 5,634
 - 2020: 2,373
- Exploring Testing Strategies & Partnerships

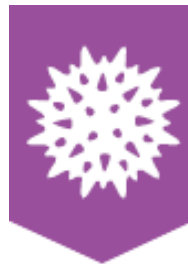




UNIVERSAL HCV SCREENING

- MMWR - April 10, 2020
- Universal HCV Screening – New Recommendations:
 - Hepatitis C screening at least once in a lifetime for all adults aged ≥ 18 years, except in settings where the prevalence of HCV infection (HCV RNA-positivity) is $< 0.1\%$
 - Hepatitis C screening for all pregnant women during each pregnancy, except in settings where the prevalence of HCV infection (HCV RNA-positivity) is $< 0.1\%$

***Treat the
infection
rapidly and
effectively to
achieve
sustained viral
suppression.***



TREAT



KEY APPROACHES TO TREAT

- Treatment as Prevention,
U = U
 - Nationally: About 80% of HIV infections that occur each year are transmitted by people who are not receiving HIV care.
- Linkage to Care
- Ryan White Programs:
Healthcare and Support
Services



HIV CARE CONTINUUM:

The series of steps a person with HIV takes from diagnosis through their successful treatment with HIV medication.



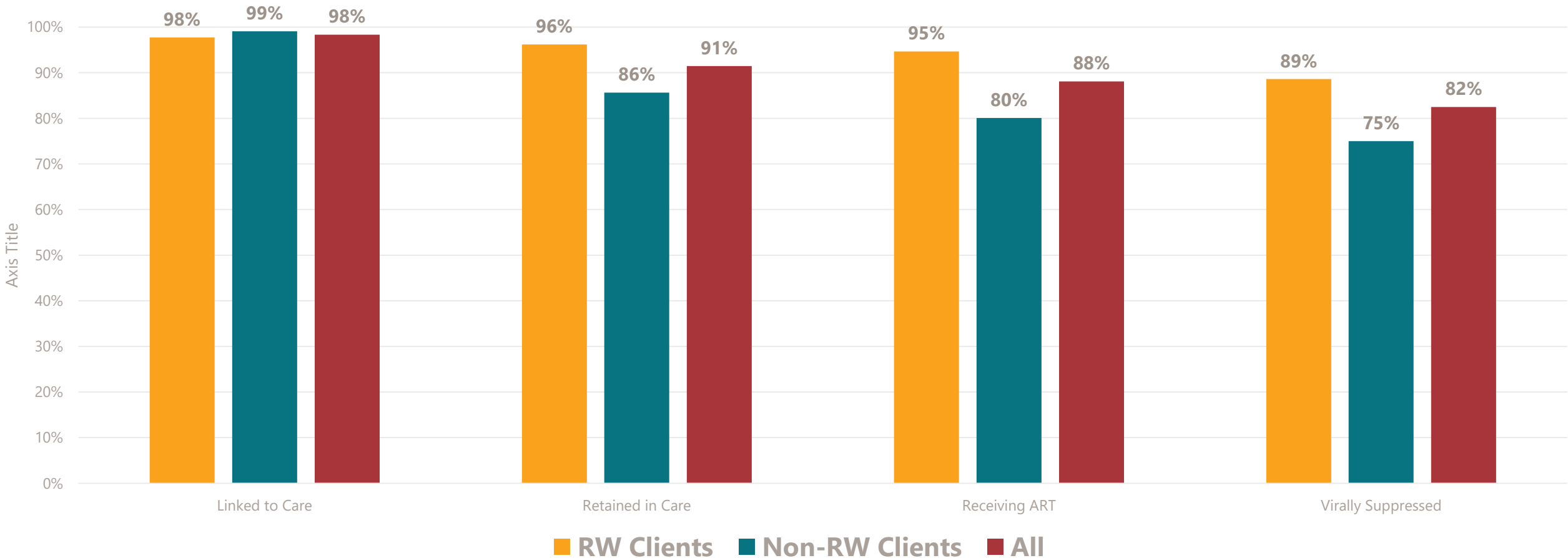
ND ACTIVITIES AND PRIORITIES

- Linkage to Care
 - For 2019, 83% of newly diagnosed individuals had a viral load reported within 1 month of diagnosis. This is a little below the outcome standard of 85% and is often due to not being able to get into an infectious disease provider within 30 days.
- Opportunities for Rapid Start of Treatment
- Reengagement into Care



U.S. VIRAL SUPPRESSION IS 62% IN 2016.

2019 ND HIV/AIDS Care Continuum



Prevent new transmissions by using proven interventions, including pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and syringe services programs (SSPs).



PREVENT



KEY APPROACHES TO PREVENT

- Prescribing and Managing **PrEP**.
 - Fewer than 25%external icon of the estimated more than 1 million Americans who could benefit from PrEP are using this prevention medication.
- Comprehensive **SSPs**.
 - New users of SSPs are five times more likely to enter drug treatment, and about three times more likely to stop using drugs than people who don't use the programs.





HIV PREP



- PrEP reduces the risk of getting HIV from **sex** by about **99%** when taken as prescribed.
- Although there is less information about how effective PrEP is among **people who inject drugs**, we do know that PrEP reduces the risk of getting HIV by at least **74%** when taken as prescribed.
- Priority Areas: **Access, Awareness, Cost**
- On-Demand PrEP: Not in CDC guidelines

HIV **PEP**



- PEP must be started with **72 hours** after possible exposure to HIV
- Prescribed for 28 days
- Three drug PEP regimen
- Potential for side effects
- Follow-up testing: 6 weeks and 4 months

***Respond quickly
to potential HIV
outbreaks to get
needed
prevention and
treatment
services to
people who need
them.***



RESPOND

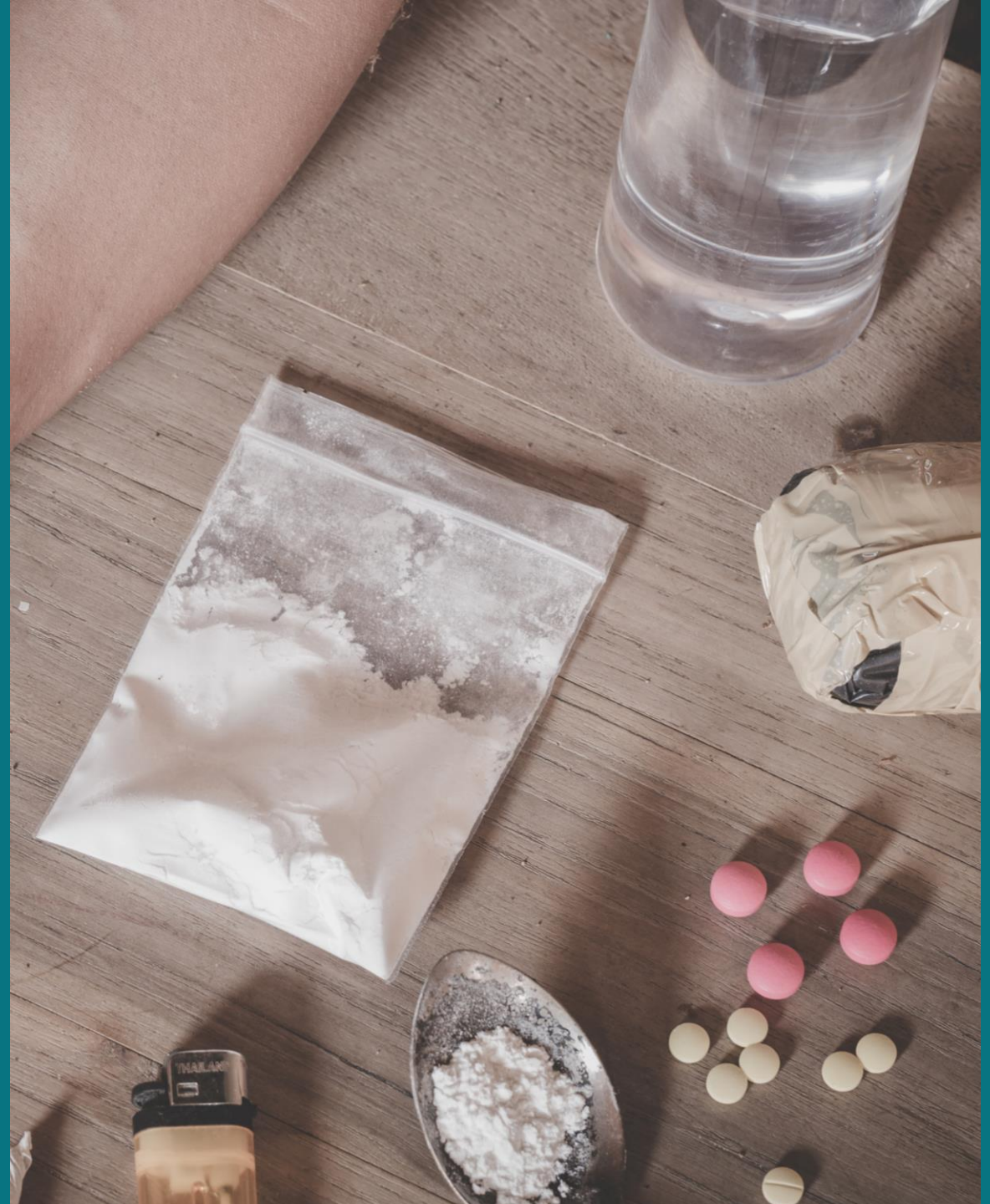


KEY APPROACHES TO RESPOND

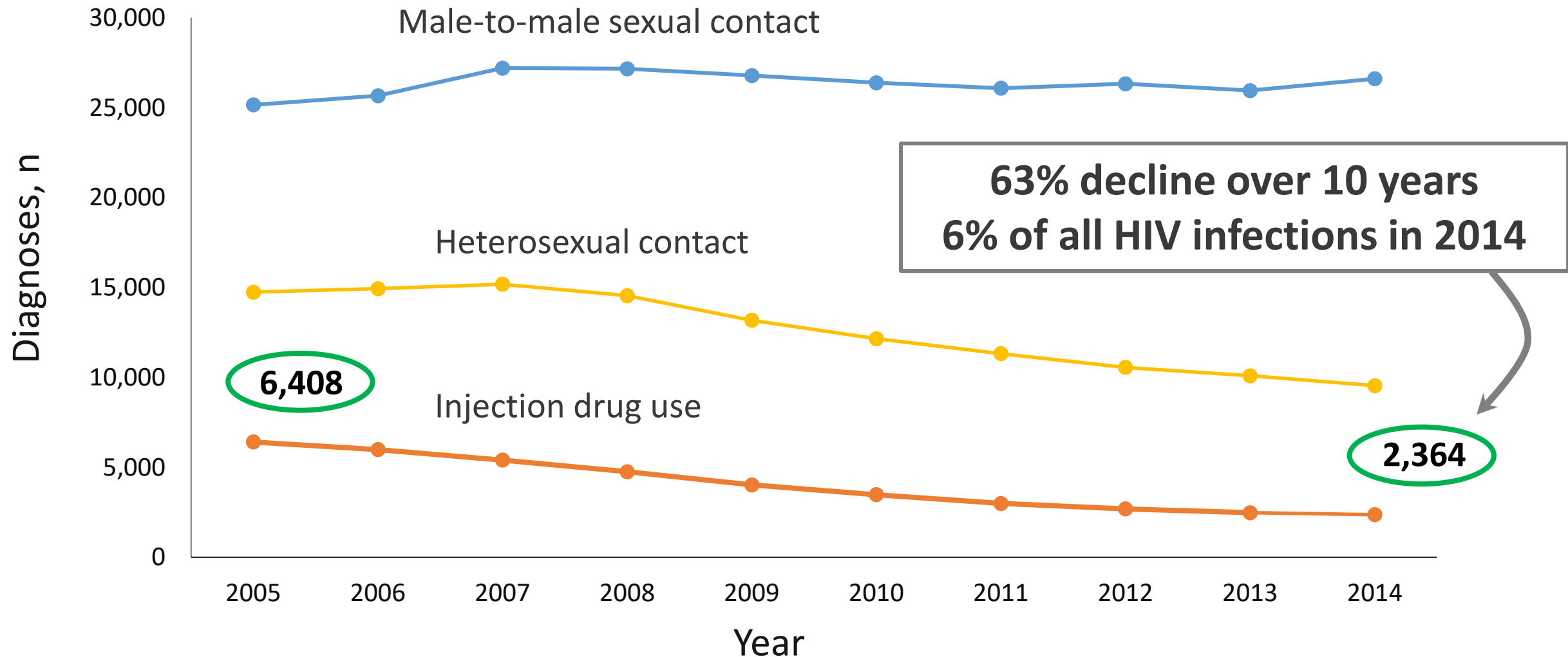
- Surveillance.
- Molecular Data.
- Outbreak Response Plans.



CDC HEALTH ALERT:
RECENT HIV CLUSTERS AND
OUTBREAKS ACROSS THE
UNITED STATES AMONG
PEOPLE WHO INJECT DRUGS
AND CONSIDERATIONS
DURING THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC



NUMBER OF HIV INFECTIONS DIAGNOSED AMONG ADULTS AND ADOLESCENTS, BY TRANSMISSION CATEGORY, 2005–2014 - UNITED STATES AND 6 DEPENDENT AREAS



INDIANA HIV OUTBREAK: GEOGRAPHY

SCOTT COUNTY POP. 24,000; AUSTIN CITY POP. 4,200



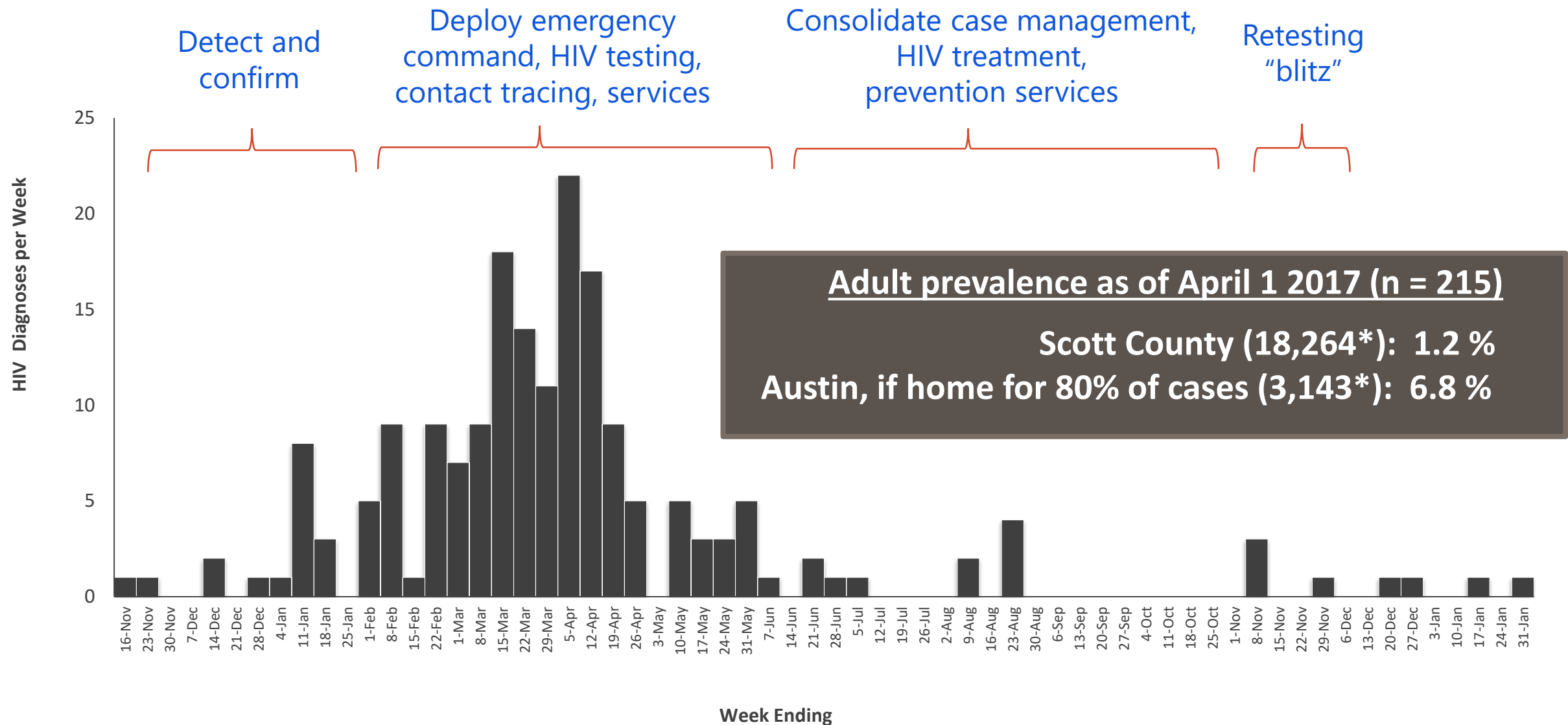
Single strain of HIV spread rapidly within a dense network of persons who inject drugs (PWID) who were using the prescription opioid oxymorphone

215 HIV Infections diagnosed as of March 2, 2017

Scott County ranked 92nd in many health and social indicators among Indiana's 92 counties

- **Lowest life expectancy**
- **9% unemployment**
- **19% poverty**
- **21% no high school**
- **Many uninsured**

HIV DIAGNOSES BY WEEK, INDIANA HIV OUTBREAK (N=188)



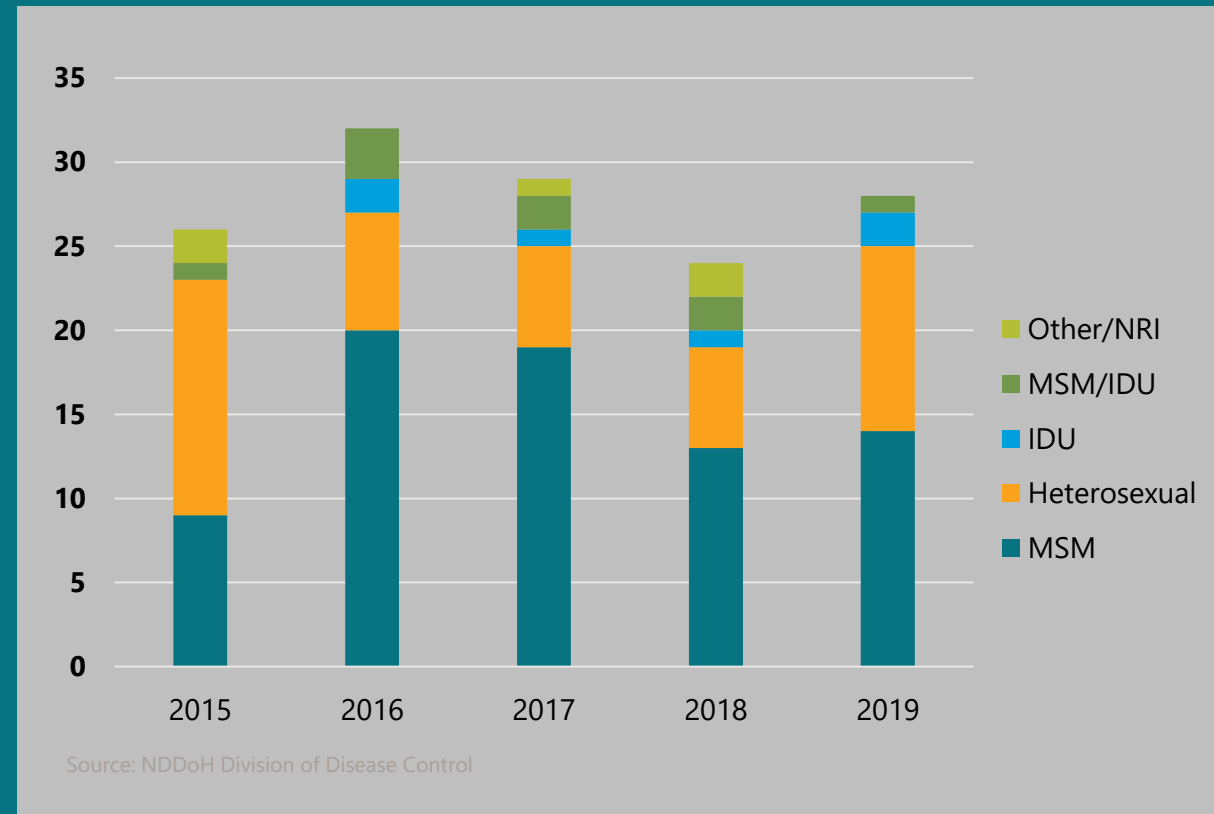
Peters P et al., N Engl J Med 2017;375(3):229-39.

*estimated population age ≥ 18 years, U.S. Census

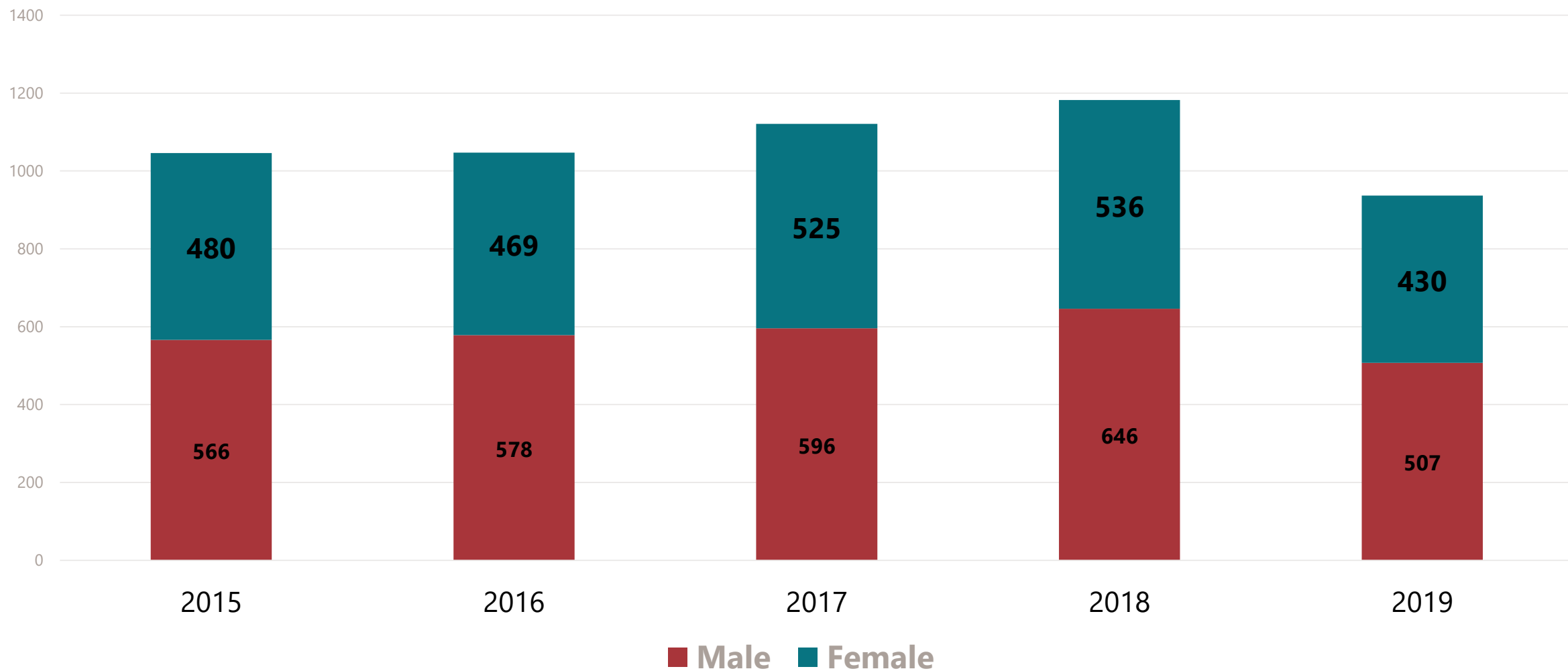
ADDITIONAL OUTBREAKS IN U.S.

- Aug. 2016: Lawrence/Lowell, Massachusetts
- 2017/2018: Northern Kentucky/Hamilton County, Ohio
- Aug. 2018: Seattle, Washington
- Sept. 2018: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Jan. 2019: Cabell County, West Virginia
- Early 2019: Portland, Oregon

The number of PWID diagnosed with HIV is increasing over the last 5 years in N.D.



HEPATITIS C IN N.D., 2015 - 2019

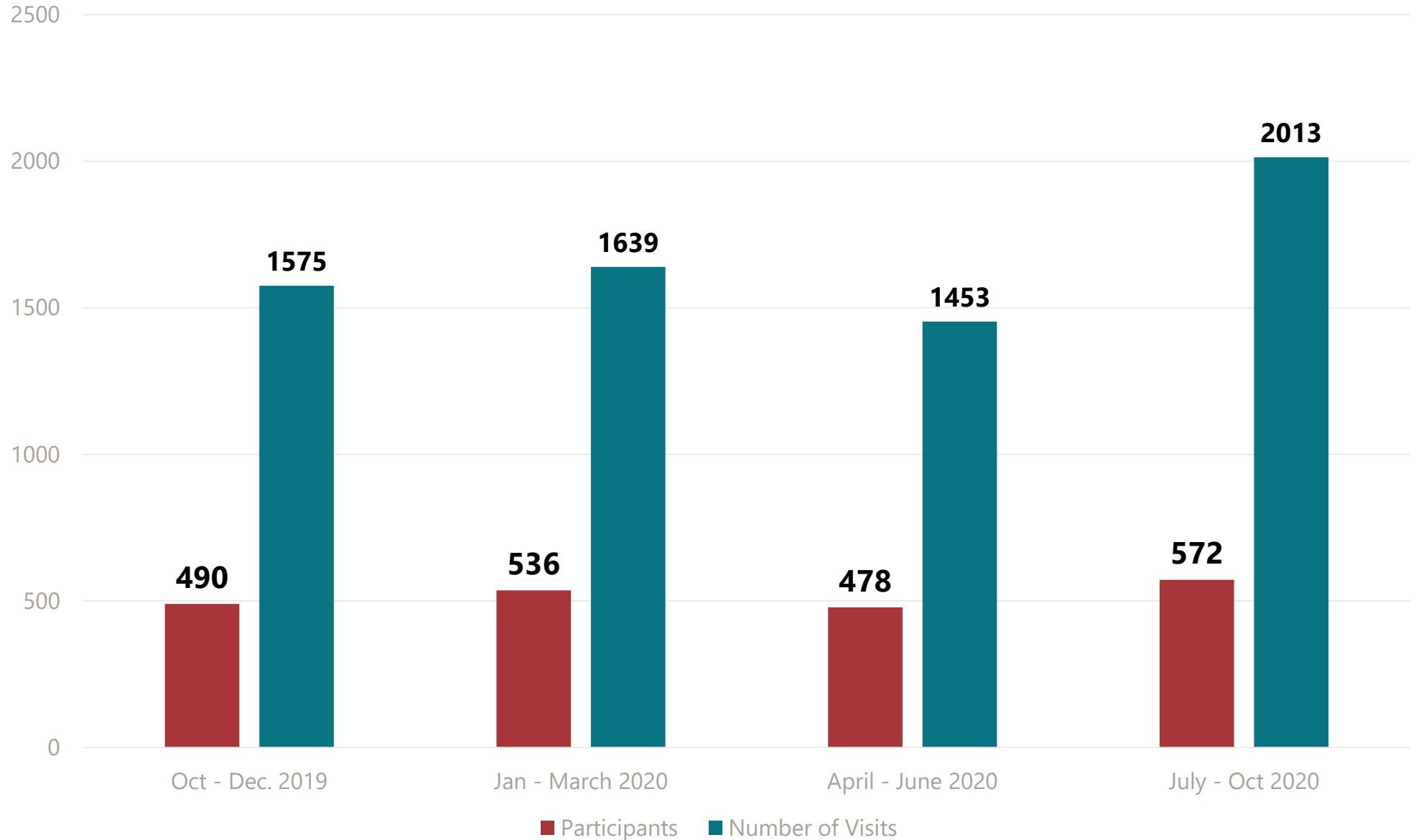


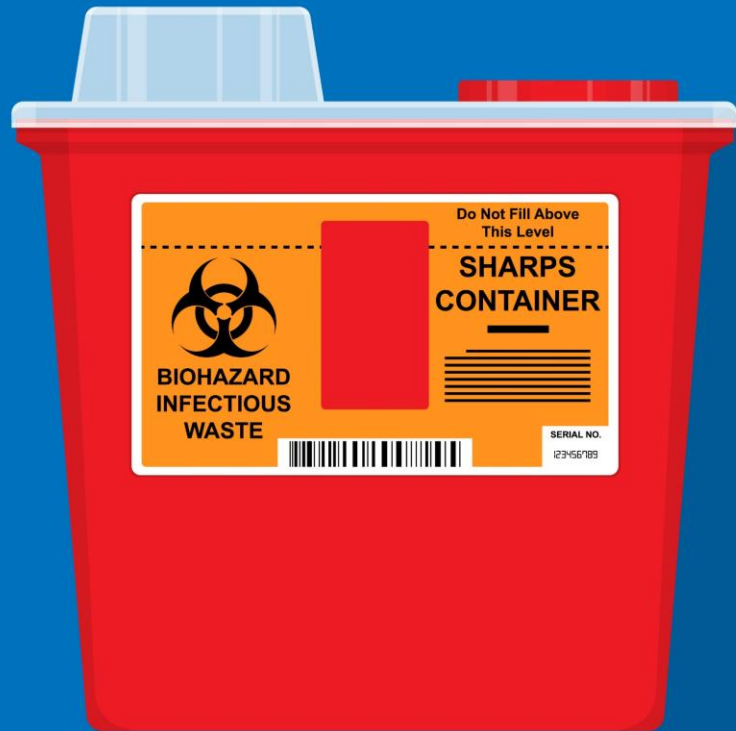
STRATEGIES & INTERVENTIONS

- Enhanced testing through partner services
- Mobile services
- Emergency Departments
 - Identified as place of missed opportunities
- Recent incarceration
- Syringe Service Programs



N.D. SSP: OCT. 2019 – OCT. 2020





SYRINGE SERVICE PROGRAMS IN NORTH DAKOTA

■ Syringes Collected

- Jan. – Oct
 - 2019: 85,905
 - 2020: 136,648

■ Syringes Distributed

- Jan. – Oct
 - 2019: 145,819
 - 2020: 202,039



DIVISION OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED AND BLOODBORNE DISEASES

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